

As a native Mississippian who has to travel all the way across Texas along I-20 and I-10 in order to visit relatives and for my work I want to remind you that there are places in this country where you couldn't listen to a local station thru the static to wait out the local weather report. It is nearly impossible to explain to those who don't drive across large areas of land without too many people living there how frustrating broadcast radio is. I was returning to AZ on the day our troops went into Bagdad and I assure you that local radio broadcasts with their "teaser come on" ads regarding what's coming up don't work for the traveler since we're often reaching the edge of the station's EFFECTIVE range. Kilowatts mean nothing with the hills and valley's of the open road. Needless to say, driving a large motorcoach thru a city without any info before getting there is a frustrating experience since one has to find the stations giving the reports at the right time or the info is useless to the traveling public.

Without XM, my choices are tapes and cd's. The addition of weather and traffic is without a doubt a true service in the finest tradition of radio. And to think, we're willing to Pay real money to have it. To allow the National Association of Bradcasters to use their influence and pandering to take away the power of the capitalist system in which the real voting is done with the consumers wallet every day is beyond reasonable understanding. The marketplace has created the desire for choices in the consumer, and under no circumsatnce should "insiders" be allowed to chooose what the consumer has access to.